3727

IN THE UNITED STATES PATERT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

JAN 2 2 2002

In re Application of:

Bruce Preston Williams

Serial No:

09/682,594

Filed:

September 25, 2001

For:

CONFIGURABLE ROOF RACK SYSTEM

Attorney Docket No: 201-0238 (FGT 1514 PA)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box DD, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

(2/21/01 Date of Deposit Signature

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.56

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the art listed and identified on the attached PTO Form is being submitted herewith for consideration by the Examiner. A copy of each of the listed references is included herewith.

It is Applicants' opinion that the claims presently on file patentably distinguish the present invention from each of these references. The above references are being cited only in the interests of candor and without any admission that they contain matter which statutory prior or constitute art invention or which would render the anticipates the obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

-2-

No fee is believed to be due because this statement and enclosures are being filed before the first Office Action on the merits mailed by the PTO. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1510.

Respectfully submitted,

ARTZ & ARTZ, P.C.

Thomas E. Donohue

Registration No. 44,660

28333 Telegraph Road, Suite 250

Southfield, MI 48034

(248) 223-9500

Attorney for Applicant

Date:

December 21, 2001

ler the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Complete if Known stitute for Form 1449A/PTO **Application Number** 09/682,594 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE September 25, 2001 Filing Date STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Bruce Preston Williams First Named Inventor Group Art Unit (use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** Attorney Docket Number 201-0238 Sheet

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.1	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENT Kind Code ² Number (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
		2,196,341	Rush	04-09-1940		
		3,339,607	L. J. Howard	09-05-1967		
-		3,476,162	U.C. McMiller	11-04-1969		
		3,878,955	Udden	04-22-1975	<u> </u>	
		4,682,719	Ernst et al	07-28-1987	\$	
		5,535,929	Neill	07-16-1996	7.0	
		5,294,027	Plastina	03-15-1994	ώ .	
		5,538,169	Moore	07-23-1996	76 77 77	
		5,988,470	Siciliano	11-23-1999	0 8 17	
					3 - 2	
					2012 Ro	
					ROQ.	
	t				1 3	
					\$. 'AK	
	1					

	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document				Date of Publication of	Pages, Columns,	6
Examiner Initials		Office 3	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
	Ť							
								ļ.,
								1
								L
			*					
	1							<u> </u>

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.